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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/944,278	08/30/2001	Albert Gouyet	NETS0074	1879
22862	7590	06/19/2006	EXAMINER	
GLENN PATENT GROUP 3475 EDISON WAY, SUITE L MENLO PARK, CA 94025			WU, RUTAO	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3639	

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/944,278	Applicant(s) GOUYET ET AL.	
	Examiner Rutao Wu	Art Unit 3639	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 April 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-66 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Status of claims

1. In response filed April 20, 2006, the applicant amended claims 1, 13, 14, 27, 53, 54, 58, 60 and new claims 61-66 have been presented.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed April 20, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to claims 1 and 27, the applicant amended the claims to include the limitation of "*wherein said plurality of internal partners are located within the limits of the business.*" The applicant argues that Tagawa does not teach that feature. The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

First, "*located within the limits of the business*" is not supported by the specifications as the phrase cannot be found in the applicant's specifications. Second, "*the limits*" is vague quantifier. What is the definition of limit? Is it within driving distance? Is it within telephonic coverage? For businesses to conduct business in a partnership it must be within the limits of all the businesses within the partnership, otherwise the partnership simply will not exist because they cannot have any control in the partnership. If the applicant means "*limits of the business*" as in located locally with each other, then Tagawa discloses options for reserving local lodging, local U-drive cars, etc (col 10: lines 61-63) From the disclosure, to be able to place reservation for

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local events, the business must be internal partners because they are located within the limits of the business.

With respect to claims 24 and 50, the applicant argues that Tagawa does not teach multi-hierarchical schema for organizing geographical regions to facilitate determining relevant travel information, wherein content in said regions overlap.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Tagawa disclose reservation system that is organized by geographical regions with regional reservation centers and that the system can have any number of regional reservation centers. (col 8: lines 51-67; col 9: 1-33) Tagawa also disclose that reservation can be made for out-of-state tour packages (col 10: lines 62-63). Therefore, for Tagawa's system to be able to make reservations for out-of-state tours, then the system must have content for that state, which could belong to a different regional reservation center, thereby providing overlapping contents.

With respect to claims 26 and 52, the applicant argues that Tagawa does not teach schema for nearby relevant cities associated with home location.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Tagawa disclose being able to reserve for local or intrastate tour packages, as well as out-of-state tour packages. (col 10: 61-63) Therefore, Tagawa must have related information regarding other cities within the state and cities out of state for the tour packages, thereby teaching the limitations presented by the applicant.

With respect to claim 58, the applicant argues that Tagawa does not teach presenting destinations based upon interest.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Tagawa discloses that if the user selects local visitor attractions option, then the system will provide suggestion on popular attractions that are a “must” for the first-time visitor and then a category menu of the various local visitor attractions is then presented on the monitor screen of the touch screen. (col 11: lines 1-16) From the disclosure, the user is interested in local visitor attractions, thus selecting local visitor attractions option based on their interest. Then the system presents the user with destinations. Therefore, Tagawa teaches the limitation as presented in claim 58.

With respect to claim 60, the applicant argues that Tagawa does not teach wherein subsequent to said interest request and without a destination request, possible destinations are presented based upon said interest request.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Tagawa discloses that if the user selects local visitor attractions option, then the system will provide suggestion on popular attractions that are a “must” for the first-time visitor and then a category menu of the various local visitor attractions is then presented on the monitor screen of the touch screen. (col 11: lines 1-16) From the disclosure, the user is interested in local visitor attractions, therefore the user selects that option based

on that interest, then the system provides the destination of attractions that users should visit. Therefore, Tagawa teaches the limitation as presented in claim 60.

With respect to claim 15-17 and 41-43, as stated in the previous office action directed to the applicant:

In response to applicants' argument to claims 15-17, 41, and 42, the applicants claim that the prior art from www.travelocity.com does not predate the applicants' filing date. The examiner respectively disagrees. The examiner provided the applicants a print out of Travelocity website dated November 16, 1999 showing the functioning webpage providing travel scheduling and reservation services which indeed is before the applicants' filing date of August 30, 2001. The webpage is obtained from Internet Archive at www.archive.org. If the applicants are not familiar with Internet Archive, the examiner respectively advise the applicants to visit the website. The Internet Archive Wayback Machine is a service that allows people to visit archived versions of Web sites. Visitors to the Wayback Machine can type in a URL, select a date range, and then begin surfing on an archived version of the Web. A print out of all the dates archived by the Internet Archive Wayback Machine of www.travelocity.com is provided to the applicants for reference. As one can see, www.travelocity.com have been archived all the way back to October 17, 1996.

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13 and 53 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagawa in view of U.S. Pat No. 5408417 to Wilder.

Referring to claim 13:

Tagawa discloses files server 112 controls the storing, updating and fetching of information in local visitor attraction inventory. (col 10: lines 25-27) Tagawa however, does not expressly disclose that local events comprises a concert.

Wilder discloses in his invention a automated ticket sales system that show upcoming events and attractions in the area, events such as concerts, sports, etc. (col 3: lines 10-13; col 6: lines 3-5)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagawa's invention to include concerts information within the local events. One would be motivated to perform such modification to allow users reserve local functions that is of interest to the users.

6. Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagawa in view of "The Never-Ending Quest: Search Engine Relevance" by Notes, Greg R.

Tagawa discloses in his invention a travel scheduling system that allows users to search for relevant travel information based on numerous categories from at least one internally maintained travel information databases (col 10: lines 20-30).

Tagawa discloses querying a travel information database for interest, and if the interest is matched, returning the travel information. (col 11: lines 1-26)

Tagawa discloses querying a travel information database for destination, and if the destination is match, returning the travel information. (col 4: lines 23-27)

However, Tagawa does not expressly disclose if a match for interest is not matched, then querying for a destination from the travel information database.

However, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to follow the travel interest query with travel destination query if an place of interest that matches the user's interest is not found. It is obvious because it is well known in the arts that companies would not want to give up a potential customer, therefore, if a customer cannot find a place of interest to travel to then the travel reservation system would allow the customer to plan his travel according to destination, so the company would be able to keep the user as a customer instead of allowing the user to travel with another company.

Tagawa does not expressly disclose that if both interest and destination query returned no matches, then a spell check tool is invoked, and the process of querying the first and second database is repeated; and if all above querying attempts are exhausted, a simple text search is performed.

Notess discloses in his article that search engines crawl through databases querying for relevant search results, and presents them when found. (Abstract) Notes also disclose that search engine AltaVista offers spelling suggestions, and searches with the alternate spelling. (SPELLING AND BAD QUERIES)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagawa's invention to include the search strategy and spell checking disclosed by Notes of the search engines. One would be motivated to perform such modification to have systematic way of searching a plurality of databases and ensure that the search is accurate and not effected by misspellings.

Complete rejection of all pending claims in the current application:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

8. Claims 1 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 1 and 27 are directed to the limitation of “wherein said plurality of internal partners are located within the limits of the business.” The Examiner cannot find sufficient support within the specification for the above limitation. Specifically, the phrase “within the limits of the business” is unsupported.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. Claims 1-3, 8-12, 14, 18-29, 34-40, 44-52, 57-65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat No. 5,732,398 to Tagawa.

Referring to claims 1 and 27:

A system for providing travel information to an end user in an intelligent way using a search result, said system comprising:

a server for receiving a request for travel information and for processing said request into a query; (col 4: lines 6-9, 23-24)

a database coupled to a feed retrieval system, wherein said feed retrieval system retrieves content from a plurality of internal and external partners.(col 10: lines 17-20, 24-31, Fig 2c)

wherein said plurality of internal partners are located within the limits of the business. (col 10: lines 61-63)

Wherein said content is categorized, customized, and stored in said database,
(col 10: lines 24-31)

Wherein said database is used during receiving and processing said query, and
in returning said search result to said server, wherein said search result comprises said
travel information in a concise and consistent fashion, thereby providing ease of use for
an end user. (col 4: lines 12-14, 25-28; col 5: lines 59-63; col 8: lines 55-60)

Referring to claims 2 and 28:

The system of Claim 1, wherein said feed retrieval system organizes said content
for efficient storage by said database for easy retrieval. (col 10: lines 24-31)

Referring to claims 3 and 29:

The system of Claim 2, said feed retrieval system further comprising:
a rules-based engine for said obtaining said content from said internal and
external partners and storing said content into said database in a format used by a
search engine. (col 4: lines 10-14, 24-27)

Referring to claims 8 and 34:

The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
lookup table for determining matches to facilitate processing said request into
said query. (col 4: lines 11-14, 24-27)

Referring to claims 9 and 35:

The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
a search mechanism for determining a context of said request, thereby
anticipating an end user's intention. (col 4: lines 11-14, 24-27)

Referring to claims 10 and 36:

The system of Claim 9, said search mechanism further comprising:
a variety of context determining categories; and (col 4: lines 23-25, 36-38, 64-66;
col 5: lines 22-33)
means for determining said a context determining category. (col 7: lines 14-17)

Referring to claims 11 and 37:

The system of Claim 10, wherein said variety of context determining categories
comprises:

A destination. (col 4: lines 24-27, 42-44)

Referring to claims 12 and 38:

The system of Claim 1, said search result comprising the following travel
categories:

Destination guides; canned keywords; local events; low air fares; hot deals; and
lodging. (col 10: lines 60-64)

Referring to claims 14 and 40:

The system of Claim 13, wherein said dynamic information comprises any of:
low air fares; a hot deal and; a fare watch. (col 10: line 25-29)

Referring to claims 18 and 44:

The system of Claim 1, further comprising a local escapes feature, wherein said
local escapes features uses a home location to provide particular travel information. (col
4: lines 33-35, 42-45)

Referring to claims 19 and 45:

The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

Means for determining said home location when not provided by an end user.

(col 11: lines 1-4)

Referring to claims 20 and 46:

The system of Claim 18, wherein said home location is selected from a list of predetermined home locations. (col 8: lines 55-60; col 9: lines 10-15)

Referring to claims 21 and 47:

The system of Claim 20, wherein said list of predetermined home locations comprises: at least fifty predetermined cities or home airports. (col 9: lines 10-15)

Referring to claims 22 and 48:

The system of Claim 18, wherein said provided travel information comprises any of: a fare watch; weekend e-fares; local events; hot deals; links to other cities; and maps. (col 10: lines 61-64)

Referring to claims 23 and 49:

The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

Means for filtering out travel information not relevant to said home location. (col 4: lines 32-35, 42-45; col 11: lines 1-4)

Referring to claims 24 and 50:

The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

A multi-hierarchical schema for organizing geographical regions to facilitate determining relevant travel information, wherein content in said regions overlap. (col 8: lines 51-67; col 9: 1-33; col 10: lines 62-63)

Referring to claims 25 and 51:

The system of Claim 24, wherein geographical regions comprise urban regions.

(col 9: lines 1-9)

Referring to claims 26 and 52:

The system of Claim 25, wherein said urban regions comprise content from other nearby and relevant cities associated with said home location. (col 9: lines 25-32; col 10: lines 61-63)

Referring to claim 39:

The system of Claim 27, wherein said travel information comprises static and/or dynamic information. (col 10: lines 24-31)

Referring to claims 57 and 59:

Wherein said request for travel information comprises:

An interest. (Fig 3)

Referring to claim 58:

Wherein possible destinations are presented based upon said interest. (col 11: lines 1-16)

Referring to claim 60:

The method of Claim 59, wherein subsequent to said interest request and without a destination request, possible destinations are presented based upon said interest request. (col 11: lines 1-23)

Referring to claim 61:

The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

A multi-hierarchical schema for organizing at least one geographical region to facilitate determining relevant travel information. (col 8: lines 51-67; col 9: 1-33)

Wherein said multi-hierarchical schema comprises levels of a state, a region within said state, and cities within said region. (col 10: lines 62-63).

Referring to claim 62:

A system for providing travel information to an end user in an intelligent way using a search result, said system comprising:

A server for receiving a request for travel information and for processing said request into a query; and (col 4: lines 6-9, 23-24)

A database coupled to a feed retrieval system, wherein said feed retrieval system retrieves content from a plurality of partners. (col 10: lines 17-20, 24-31, Fig 2c)

Where said content comprises data categorized, customized, and stored in a multi-hierarchical schema for organizing at least one geographical region, (col 10: lines 24-31)

Wherein said geographical region is categorized into a first set of narrower regions, (col 9: lines 10-15)

Wherein said first set of narrower regions is categorized into a second set of still narrower regions. (col col 10: lines 60-64; Fig 3)

Wherein said database is used during receiving and processing said query, and in returning said search result to said server, and (col 4: lines 7-14)

Wherein said search result comprises said travel information in a concise and consistent fashion, thereby providing ease of use for an end user. (col 11: lines 12-24)

Referring to claim 63:

The system of Claim 62, wherein said database comprises both static information and dynamic information, (col 10: lines 24-31)

Wherein said dynamic information contained in said database comprises local escape information of things to do in a local specified area. (col 11: lines 1-24)

Referring to claim 64:

The system of Claim 63, further comprising

A search mechanism that determines a category for which a user is requesting information wherein said category comprises: (Fig 3)

An interest; and (col 11: lines 1-16)

A destination (col 4: lines 22-28)

Referring to claim 65:

The system of Claim 64, wherein said search mechanism determines whether to search based on a user interest before searching based on a user destination or to search based on said user destination before searching based on said user interest. (col 10: lines 60-65)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 4, 5, 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagawa in view of U.S. Pat No. 6,457,009 to Bollay.

Tagawa discloses in his invention a travel scheduling system that allows users to search for relevant travel information based on numerous categories. Tagawa does not disclose custom coded forms supplied to partners for facilitating obtaining travel information. Tagawa also does not disclose that the forms are in XML format.

Bollay discloses in his invention that a generic HTML form is filled in, and then translation is done on the form from a uniform field name to an actual name used by a corresponding remote database. (col 2: lines 44-49)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagawa's invention to include custom generated forms that can be supplied to partners to facilitate information gathering. One would be motivated to perform such modification to allow a standardized form being used by the partners to facilitate obtaining travel information.

Regarding claims 5 and 31. Bollay does not explicitly state that the forms can also be coded in standard languages other than HTML, e.g. XML. The examiner takes official notice that forms coded in XML format are not a new feature. XML is another standardized language similar to HTML. Example can be found in U.S. Pat No. 6,697,967 to Robertson (col 2: lines 20-24)

13. Claims 6, 7, 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagawa in view of U.S. Pat No. 6,601,059 to Fries.

Tagawa discloses in his invention a travel scheduling system that allows users to search for relevant travel information based on numerous categories. Tagawa does not disclose a spell check service to provide correct spelling of an intended word, and the means of providing suggestions on alternate spelling or relevant phrases, or means for setting ambiguity among words or phrases having similar parts.

Fries discloses in his invention a method of providing a visual cue to the user to indicate that the search query includes a misspelled word. The method also includes a step of providing lists of possible spellings for the misspelled words and allowing the user to select one of the possible spellings from the list. The method then replaces the misspelled word with the selected spelling to produce modified test. (col 1: lines 54-63)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagawa's invention to include the spell checker that will notify the misspelled word, and then suggest alternatives. One would be motivated to perform such modification to assist the end user in providing correct spelling of an intended word so the search query with the word or phrase can be more effective.

14. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagawa in view of U.S. Pat No. 5408417 to Wilder.

Tagawa discloses files server 112 controls the storing, updating and fetching of information in local visitor attraction inventory. (col 10: lines 25-27) Tagawa however, does not expressly disclose that local events comprises a concert.

Wilder discloses in his invention a automated ticket sales system that show upcoming events and attractions in the area, events such as concerts, sports, etc. (col 3: lines 10-13; col 6: lines 3-5)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagawa's invention to include concerts information within the local events. One would be motivated to perform such modification to allow users reserve local functions that is of interest to the users.

15. Claims 15-17 and 41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagawa in view of www.travelocity.com.

Tagawa discloses in his invention a travel scheduling system that allows users to search for relevant travel information based on numerous categories. Tagawa does not disclose that the travel information is presented in one web page; that the web page comprises links for linking more detailed information; and that the more detail information comprises information reflecting and associated with one or more than one of said context determining categories.

www.travelocity.com discloses a web server with travel information presented in one web page. The web page also includes links to more detail information, and the information reflects one or more than one of the context determining categories.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagawa's invention to include the web page from www.travelocity.com that has links for more detailed information reflecting the context determining categories. One would be motivated to perform such modification to allow users to obtain travel information at places other than the plurality of kiosk described by Tagawa.

16. Claims 53-56, 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tagawa in view of "The Never-Ending Quest: Search Engine Relevance" by Notes, Greg R.

Regarding claim 53, Tagawa discloses in his invention a travel scheduling system that allows users to search for relevant travel information based on numerous categories from at least one internally maintained travel information databases (col 10: lines 20-30).

Tagawa discloses querying a travel information database for interest, and if the interest is matched, returning the travel information. (col 11: lines 1-26)

Tagawa discloses querying a travel information database for destination, and if the destination is match, returning the travel information. (col 4: lines 23-27)

However, Tagawa does not expressly disclose if a match for interest is not matched, then querying for a destination from the travel information database.

However, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to follow the travel interest query with travel destination query if an place of interest that

matches the user's interest is not found. It is obvious because it is well known in the arts that companies would not want to give up a potential customer, therefore, if a customer cannot find a place of interest to travel to then the travel reservation system would allow the customer to plan his travel according to destination, so the company would be able to keep the user as a customer instead of allowing the user to travel with another company.

Tagawa does not expressly disclose that if both interest and destination query returned no matches, then a spell check tool is invoked, and the process of querying the first and second database is repeated;

Notess discloses in his article that search engines crawl through databases querying for relevant search results, and presents them when found. (Abstract) Notes also disclose that search engine AltaVista offers spelling suggestions, and searches with the alternate spelling. (SPELLING AND BAD QUERIES)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tagawa's invention to include the search strategy and spell checking disclosed by Notes of the search engines. One would be motivated to perform such modification to have systematic way of searching a plurality of databases and ensure that the search is accurate and not effected by misspellings.

Regarding claim 54, Tagawa does not expressly disclose that if all query attempts are exhausted, a simple text search is perform.

However, it is obvious that Tagawa's invention has the ability to perform text based search, since Tagaw discloses inputting origin and destination information for

reservation of plane tickets(col 4: lines 24-28), and it is well know in the arts that origin and destination is comprised of text.

Regarding claim 55, Tagawa discloses the data input by the user in response to such queries would then be used to narrow down the search process of the choices that match the user's needs. (col 2: lines 65-67)

Regarding claim 56, Tagawa discloses options of local visitor attractions, local lodging, local U-drive cars, local or intrastate tour packages, airline tickets, out-of-state tour packages, cruises and other shopping options. (col 10: lines 61-63)

Regarding claim 66, Tagawa discloses a search mechanism that determines a category for which a user is requesting information, wherein said category comprises:
(Fig 3)

An interest; and(col 11: lines 1-16)

A destination. (col 4: lines 22-28)

Conclusion

17. Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant.

Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that the applicant, in preparing the responses, fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of

the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

18. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

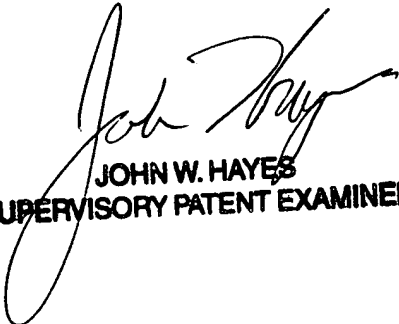
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rutao Wu whose telephone number is (571)272-3136. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571)272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

rw



JOHN W. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER